

Nov 12 1875

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L. J. Stanley Esq

533 Main Street

Kansas City

Mo.



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Boston University, Beacon St.  
Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> 1875

My dear Sir

You have rightly translated the meaning of my postal card.

Your letter is too important a one to be answered hurriedly.

I have been kept so busy with the opening of a Normal School for Articulation Teachers of the Deaf - and dumb of which I am Principal - and with other professional work, that I have been unable to give your letter as much attention as it deserves.

You are right in supposing my method of Autographic Telegraphy to be based upon Caselli's. It is more strictly a development of Meyer's Autograph Telegraph - which however is itself - a modification of Caselli's.

For some months past I have been experimenting in order to substitute ordinary paper for the metallic foil - and as conducting for a non-conducting ink - but I must confess with rather unsatisfactory results.

I do not suppose that in ordinary Autographic Systems it makes



much difference. which plan is adopted — so far as the successful working is concerned — but it does in mine. A method such as that you propose is to me a great desideratum.

I think it will be to our mutual advantage to compare notes and I shall be glad to hear further from you.

I find — and no doubt you have found so too — that in this subject — there is a great difference between theory and practice.

Your idea must strike every one at once as very simple and beautiful — if it is practicable.

The method that I have found most practicable so far — (although I have been at work with the same idea you have) — is to write upon a metallic foil with non-conducting ink and then reverse the effect upon the main circuit by means of special apparatus placed in a local circuit.

In this way the main circuit is made when the style rests upon the non-conducting ink — and broken when it rests upon the metallic foil.

I admit at once that this plan



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is not nearly so simple  
as writing upon a non-conducting  
surface with a metallic ink —  
but so far as my experiments  
have been carried it is more  
practicable.

I have consulted with my  
partners in regard to your communication  
and I am authorized to say  
that it will be to our advantage  
to adopt your method if it is practicable.

Whatever you may choose to  
tell us of your plan will be  
considered as private and confidential  
and no use will be made of  
it unless we conclude some  
arrangement.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours Truly

A. Graham Bell

(Professor of Vocal Physiology in the  
Boston University)

Obes

L. L. Stanley, Jr.  
533 Main St.  
Kansas City  
Mo.

DSI



P.S. My Normal School  
opens on the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. and  
I shall then have more time  
to write to you. I have  
hitherto been kept busy day  
and night — with the preparation  
and delivery of lectures.

After the 15<sup>th</sup> inst — I  
shall begin again to devote  
a considerable portion of my  
time to the development of  
my telegraphic projects.

I may say that I believe myself  
to be the original inventor of all  
that Mr. Gray claims as his  
with the exception of the method  
of transmitting sounds through living  
tissue — which can scarcely be said  
to be of practical value. An interference  
is now pending between Mr. Gray  
and myself in regard to the points  
in which we come into conflict —  
but I have already secured the  
Patents for the Autograph system  
invented by me. I shall write  
to you fully of my own apparatus whenever  
I have a little more leisure — and in the  
meantime, would be glad to know what you have  
been doing. Yrs truly A. E. B.